



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

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As a result of the discovery of BSE in a cow in Canada on May 20, Secretary Veneman temporarily halted imports of live ruminants and most ruminant products from Canada. After a close review of the international standards set for animal health, an exhaustive epidemiological investigation into the case by Canada and the additional mitigation measures put in place by Canada, the Secretary has determined that the United States will immediately issue permits for hunter-harvested wild ruminant game for personal use.

Hunters can now begin bringing wild ruminant meat products intended for their personal use through certain ports of entry into the United States, but will need a "Veterinary Services Special Permit for the Importation of Hunter-Harvested Wild Ruminant Meat," along with a valid hunting license or a photocopy of one. The permit can be downloaded from "<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/bse/bse.html>" or obtained by calling the APHIS National Center for Import and Export at (301) 734-3277.

We appreciate your patience as we work through these complex issues.

Sincerely,

Bobby Acord
Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture



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